**Status:** Ready To File

Western Massachusetts Electric Company Docket No. DTE 04-106

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Witness: Richard A. Soderman

Request from: Department of Telecommunications and Energy

## Question:

Refer to Exh. C, Att. 1, Sch. C-3.1. Please explain the change in pension expense from the test year to the pro forma levels reported for the years 2004 and 2005. Provide all workpapers, calculations, assumptions, etc. used to derive the test year and pro forma pension expense levels.

## Response:

The table below provides the calculation for the distribution pension expense shown on Exh. C, Att. 1, Sch. C-3.1. Pages 2 through 5 provide the workpapers and actuarial assumptions used to derive the test year and pro forma pension levels before capitalization.

## The Western Massachusetts Electric Company (Thousands of Dollars)

Description	2003		2004		2005	
Total Distribution Pension Cost Less: Capitalized Portion	\$	(7,886) (2,898)	\$	(3,372) (1,240)	\$	(586) (215)
Total Distribution Expense	\$	(4,987)	\$	(2,132)	\$	(371)